(iv) Liabilities, if any, particularly as regards dues of any public financial institution or Government.

(v) The educational qualifications of the candidate.

(c) Since the directions had been issued to the Election Commission of India, the Government had requested the Commission to obtain extension of time from the Supreme Court so that the Government could discuss the matter with the political parties. However, the Election Commission did not accede to Government's request and has proceeded to issue an order asking the candidates to furnish the information mentioned in (b) above. The Government had convened a meeting of political parties on 8 July, 2002 and is in the process of preparing a draft Bill for further discussion with them so that the concern regarding criminalisation of politics could be met.

Guidelines relating to film certification

*15. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

SHRI RAJU PARMAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Censor Anand to clear more screen nudity with 'X' rating", which appeared in the Asian Age, New Delhi, dated the 21st June, 2002;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to amend the existing guidelines and propose to clear films with extra doses of nudity and vulgarity with a special 'X' certificate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Comments of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) on the news-item had been called for. CBFC has informed that the news-item refers to a suggestion received by the Board in connection with an exercise undertaken to recommend to the Government various

suggestions for review of the Cinematographic Act, 1952 and the Rules made thereunder. In the light of the objectives of Film Certification, the Government has advised CBFC that the stray suggestion received by CBFC regarding 'XA' (X Rating) film certification is neither desirable nor in order and therefore need not be considered.

Action against Doordarshan defaulters

*16. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doordarshan has initiated action against private producers and agencies which owe a total of Rs. 169.28 crores;

(b) if so, the total number of private producers and agencies which have been continuously delaying payments;

(c) how much has so far, been recovered from them;

(d) in how many cases legal action has been taken; and

(e) how many, out of the defaulters, have been refused permission or extension of their programme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati has intimated that out of Rs. 169.28 crores, outstanding against 71 agencies (as on 31st March, 2002), Prasar Bharati has made recovery of Rs. 19.18 crore as on date. Twenty nine defaulting producers and marketing agencies are delaying payments. Prasar Bharati has further informed that in 40 cases, legal action has been initiated and 47 companies/agencies have not been allowed business with Doordarshan.

Joint venture between India and Iran

*17. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran have decided to takeup joint infrastructure projects in Afghanistan and other countries of the region;